

home in Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas on Saturday, March 12, 2022, at the age of 99.

Robert was born on June 14, 1922, in Superior, Nebraska to Dr. Irving and Rose Pratt. He and his younger sister Peggy were raised in San Antonio, Texas where they both graduated from Jefferson High School. Robert attended the San Antonio College after he graduated from Jefferson in 1941 until he enlisted in the Navy in October of 1942. Due to his college credits already earned, he was entered into an officer training program. He was commissioned an Ensign in May of 1944. He proceeded to be part of the commissioning crew of LST 781. LST 781 then sailed from New Orleans, LA through the Panama Canal and into the South Pacific Theater. His ship participated in many of the island invasions in the Pacific culminating in the invasion of Okinawa where he survived kamikaze attacks while supporting Marine Corp Air Unit logistics. His ship had the distinction of being one of the first American ships to enter a Japanese port after the Atomic Bombs ended the conflict. He used a jeep from his ship to drive the short distance to Hiroshima to see the destruction there since no one knew anything about the danger of radiation. It was a sight he could never forget.

He returned after the war to San Antonio and completed his undergraduate degree in marketing at St. Mary's University. He was working for General Motors when he met the love of his life, Frances Salley of Alice, Texas. They married in January of 1950. When they returned from their honeymoon, he was greeted by a letter from the United States Navy calling him back to active duty for the Korean conflict. After Korea, he and Frances returned to South Texas where they raised two sons, Robert W Pratt II and Byron Wayne Pratt.

Robert had careers as an executive for Central Power & Light Company and later as a real estate developer of apartment communities. He stayed in the Navy Reserves retiring with the rank of Commander. He was an active member of the Corpus Christi Yacht Club for many years.

Robert and Frances enjoyed a 71+ year partnership and adventure together. Many of their best times were spent with family and friends aboard their 50-foot ketch, the *Masquerade*, on voyages that went from Florida to Annapolis, Maryland, and throughout the Caribbean. They moved from Corpus Christi, Texas to Fair Oaks Ranch, Texas in 1995 where RW continued to manage some of his real estate assets and mentor younger people he met to grow to their full potential.

We are able to live free today because of the courage of men like Commander Pratt, who put their lives on hold and answered their country's call when it needed them most. Love of family, country, and a life dedicated to service sum up the character of Commander Pratt, a member of the Greatest Generation. These stories will inspire future generations of Americans to pursue a life dedicated to causes greater than themselves. I hope this testament to Commander Pratt's life serves as an acknowledgment of the immeasurable debt of gratitude owed to him by the American people. On behalf of Texas' 21st Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary life of Commander Pratt and his dedicated service to our country. Today, a grateful Nation thanks him.

RECOGNIZING GOOD NEIGHBORS SHOPPE IN LENOIR CITY, TENNESSEE FOR 20 YEARS OF CHARITABLE SERVICE IN THE LOUDON COUNTY COMMUNITY

HON. TIM BURCHETT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 18, 2022

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Good Neighbors Shoppe, a charitable organization that is celebrating 20 years of service in Loudon County, Tennessee.

Roberta and Eugene Burwell opened Good Neighbors Shoppe on March 19, 2002, at 109 East Broadway Street in Lenoir City, Tennessee. Their mission was to financially support other charities in the area using the proceeds from selling donated goods at their store. After early success, Good Neighbors Shoppe built a new, larger headquarters at 420 Leeper Parkway in Lenoir City, where it is located today.

Good Neighbors Shoppe has donated over \$5 million since 2002, and at least 80 percent of each year's sales income is donated to charities within the Loudon County community. Domestic and sexual abuse centers for adults and children, food pantries, veterans' organizations, literacy programs, youth development groups, disabled and senior citizen programs, and addiction recovery centers are among the many organizations benefitting from Good Neighbors Shoppe's contributions. Additionally, Good Neighbors Shoppe has subsidized over 35 academic scholarships to Loudon County students and distributed annual grants to all Loudon County public schools.

Behind Good Neighbors Shoppe's success is a team of over 220 unpaid volunteers. These volunteers screen donated merchandise, professionally display the items that are for sale, and operate the storefront. Gently used and new items available for sale at Good Neighbors Shoppe include women's, men's and children's clothing, kitchen wares, furniture, and other useful items.

It is my honor to recognize the philanthropic efforts of Good Neighbors Shoppe in the United State House of Representatives. Congratulations to every Good Neighbors Shoppe volunteer, past and present, on 20 years of outstanding service to East Tennessee communities.

HONORING THE PLATTSBURGH DISTRICT NO. 3 VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING.

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 18, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Plattsburgh District No. 3 Fire Department on the 50th anniversary of its founding. This fire department has shown tremendous dedication to protecting and serving the city of Plattsburgh and the surrounding municipalities in Clinton County.

The District No. 3 Fire Department was first authorized in a resolution passed by the Town Board of Plattsburgh on July 1, 1971 and was formally chartered two months later. Under the leadership of their first Chief, Ken Dumas, the twenty-five original firefighters of District No. 3 steadily began to establish themselves within the Plattsburgh community. Shortly after the Department's creation, local resident Kathryn Grube generously donated her private land on Wallace Hill Road to serve as their first permanent fire station. Despite many updates and renovations, the Wallace Hill Station is still the main home of District No. 3.

As the years went on, the Department continued to emerge from its humble beginnings, gaining more experience and acquiring better equipment. In 1972, they purchased two one-thousand gallon per minute fire pumps, and they were officially integrated into the Clinton County Firemen's Association the following year. In 1983, they acquired a Mack Aerialscope fire engine from the City of New York and were further enhanced by a consistent flow of community donations.

Today, the District No. 3 Fire Department has expanded to over forty volunteer members who are extraordinary examples of those willing to sacrifice for the good of their community. Now utilizing an impressive fleet of five modern engines, the District No. 3 Fire Department responds to over one hundred calls annually. On April 9, 2022, the Department will celebrate its seven remaining founding members: Dennis Burnell, Wendell Burnell, George Giroux, Marcel Giroux, Gary Gudz, Edward Goslow, and Roger Harwood. On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize the 50th anniversary of Plattsburgh's No. 3 Fire Department.

HONORING MR. MOE AMMAR

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 18, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Mr. Moe Ammar from Pacific Grove's Chamber of Commerce after 29 years of dedicated service to Monterey County and the central coast of California. Mr. Ammar's legacy of leadership and financial stewardship will continue to guide Pacific Grove's strong and vibrant Chamber of Commerce and business community.

Born in Beirut, Lebanon, Mr. Ammar quickly rose through the ranks of the hospitality industry after graduating from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 1979. After developing hotels around the world, his work brought him to Pacific Grove in 1986 and Mr. Ammar quickly embraced our community and became the champion of Pacific Grove's businesses at the local and state level. He passionately fought against increased taxes, parking charges, and zoning laws that limit business growth.

Under his leadership and presidency, the Chamber passed four ballot measures in support of local business priorities. In 2001, the Downtown Business Improvement District was formed by the Chamber which benefits 230 businesses. In 2007, the Chamber helped form the Hospitality Improvement District that represents and benefits 23 lodging establishments, and in 2013, it established the Tourist Information Center.